

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 SSO-00 /079 W

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R 261408Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4014

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

DIA WASH DC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJ: MAKARIOS INTERVIEW

1. GOC PIO ON JULY 23 RELEASED TEXT OF INTERVIEW GIVEN BY  
ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS TO ATHENS CORRESPONDENT OF DEUTSCHE WELLE.  
FOLLOWING POINTS OF INTEREST EMERGED FROM INTERVIEW.

2. MAKARIOS SAID GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT A  
COMPROMISE PROVIDED IT DOES NOT JEOPARDIZE THE INDEPENDENCE  
AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS. HIS IMPRESSION, HOWEVER,  
WAS THAT TURKISH SIDE WAS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE ANY CONCESSIONS  
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THAT WOULD PROVIDE COMMON GROUND FOR AN AGREEMENT AND THAT IT

WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT TURKS HAVE AVOIDED SUBMITTING CONCRETE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSALS THAT WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE A PACKAGE DEAL APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION -- AND FOR FIRST TIME THAT WE CAN RECALL -- MAKARIOS SAID HE WOULD NOT REJECT A MEETING WITH MR. DENKTASH, PROVIDEDING DENKTASH REALLY HAD FREEDOM OF DECISION AT THE NEGOTIATIONS. ASKED WHETHER HE HAD INDICATIONS THAT SUPER-POWERS AIMED AT ESTABLISHING BASES IN CYPRUS BEFORE THE COUP AND NOW, ARCHBISHOP REPLIED: " A LOT HAS BEEN SAID ABOUT THE STAND AND THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES BEFORE THE COUP. HOWEVER, I HAVE NO CLEAR INDICATIONS SUPPORTING THE RUMORS. AS FOR OUR FOREIGN POLICY, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT A CHANGE IS CALLED FOR. WE SHALL CONTINUE A NON-ALIGNED POLICY. CYPRUS IS A VERY SMALL COUNTRY AND ITS ENTRY INTO BLOCS WOULD DESTROY BOTH ITS INDEPENDENCE AND IT NATIONAL ENTITY AND IDENTITY."

4. INTERESTINGLY, MAKARIOS FOR FIRST FIME ADMITTED PUBLICLY THAT "IT WOULD ... HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS BEFORE THE COUP AND THE INVASION. BUT THE DICTATORIAL REGIME IN ATHENS THROUGH ITS INSTRUMENTS IN CYPRUS, THAT IS THE GREEK OFFICERS SERVING WITH THE NATIONAL GUARD AND THE TERRORIIST EOKA B ORGANIZATION, TORPEDOED THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY AGREEMENT."

5. COMMENT: MAKARIOS' STATED WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH DENKTASH APPEARS TO BE A DEPARTURE FROM HIS POSITION OF LAST SEVERAL YEARS, WHEN HE TOOK PARTICULAR CARE TO AVOID EQUATING HIS POSITON AS PRESIDENT OF ALL OF CYPRUS WITH DENKTASH'S POSITION AS COMMUNAL LEADER. LITTLE HAS BEEN MADE HERE OF THE MAKARIOS STATEMENT, EITHER BY GREEKS OR TURKS, AND IN PRESENT NEGOTIATING STALEMATE IT PROBABLY HAS LITTLE PRACTICAL RELEVANCE. NEVERTHELESS, AGAINST THE OFFHAND CHANCE THAT A DIRECT TOP-LEVEL MEETING AT SOME POINT BECOMES NECESSARY, IT IS HELPFUL TO HAVE ON RECORD MAKARIOS' WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH DENKTASH.  
END COMMENT.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, POLICIES, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NICOSI02102  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760287-0334  
**From:** NICOSIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760721/aaaaassc.tel  
**Line Count:** 98  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <06 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MAKARIOS INTERVIEW  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CY, TU, (MAKARIOS III)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006